After obtaining Government approval, OVL have signed an agreement with the Ministry of Energy and Mining (MEM) of Sudan on 30.6.2004 for implementing the pipeline project, which is scheduled to be inaugurated by Minister (P&NG) towards the end of August or early September, 2005.

The proposed Port Sudan refinery will have a refining capacity of 100,000 bbl/per day for the Coker+Cracker Fluidized Catalytic (FCC) configuration as chosen by the MEM. As ONGC/OVL is not essentially a refinery company, for the planning and execution of the Sudan Refinery Project, they have been advised to take the required technical support from Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) and Mangalore Refinery Petrochemicals Ltd. (MRPL), a subsidiary of ONGC, who are in the business of setting up and operating refineries.

The execution of the pipeline project involves procurement of materials and services for which several Indian parties are involved. However, it would be difficult to quantify the number of Indian professionals who would get an opportunity.

Counterfeit gas cylinders

2895. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adulterated and counterfeit gas cylinders are pushed into market which are serious threat to people;

(b) if so, the number of accidents and deaths which occurred due to such cylinders; and

(c) whether Government have taken any firm action to prevent it and to chastise the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are procuring LPG cylinders from cylinder manufacturers who are approved by the Oil Industry Technical Committee (OITC) and have valid manufacturing licences from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE). Strict control is exercised by BIS

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

over the manufacturing process. LPG cylinders procured by OMCs meet the required quality standards.

LPG cylinders received from distributors/transporters at the bottling plants are mandatorily checked for their quality and genuineness to avoid the entry of fake and outlived cylinders in circulation. On detection of sub-standard/spurious cylinders, these are confiscated and thereafter de-shaped/crushed to prevent their re-entry into circulation.

OMCs have not reported any accident on account of counterfeit cylinders supplied by their distributors during the last year.

Measures to check circulation of expired LPG cylinders

†2896. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many old and expired LPG gas cylinders are in circulation in the market which is totally in contravention of the explosives Act;

(b) whether there is more possibility of accidents by expired and rusted gas cylinders; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Government to check the circulation of old and expired gas cylinders of various companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are procuring LPG cylinders from cylinder manufacturers who are approved by the Oil Industry Technical Committee (OITC) and have valid manufacturing licences from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE). Strict control is exercised by BIS over the manufacturing process. LPG cylinders procured by OMCs meet the required quality standards.

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